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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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214 Cited for Speeding in First Week of Enforcement Campaign
Other impaired and aggressive drivers also cited

Dover – In the first week of a statewide enforcement initiative to get drivers to “Stop speeding before it stops you,” Delaware law enforcement officers have issued 214 citations alone for speeding violations. Preventing speed related crashes and fatalities is the new focus of the Office of Highway Safety’s 2008 “Stop Aggressive Driving” campaign, which OHS and law enforcement launched last week.

In addition to the 214 speeding citations issued, officers also made four aggressive driving arrests (which requires them to observe three or more traffic violations in one incident), one arrest for DUI, and two other criminal arrests.

“We want the public to know that in addition to speeders, officers are still arresting other dangerous drivers such as those who run red lights, or are impaired by drugs and or alcohol,” said Andrea Summers, Community Relations Officer for the Office of Highway Safety. “But because most everyone speeds, the public seems to have forgotten that it too is dangerous behavior.”

In 2007, 62% of Delaware’s fatal crashes were caused by aggressive driving behaviors, with speed being the most frequently cited violation. Nationally, nearly 13,500 people died in speed-related crashes in 2006. Speeding is second only to DUI as the leading cause of traffic deaths in Delaware according to statewide crash data.

Drivers ticketed for going 10 mph over the speed limit, will receive 4 points on their license and be fined \$77.40 after court costs are assessed. Fines and points increase from there putting your driving privileges at risk. Anyone who sees an aggressive driver is encouraged to call 9 -1-1 as soon as it’s safe to do so, and provide the following information to dispatchers:

make, model and color of the vehicle, direction of travel, and license plate information if possible. They should not continue to follow the aggressive driver, but let the police take it from there.

The “Stop Aggressive Driving Campaign is the third component of the 120 Days of Summer HEAT initiative, a summer-time crackdown on traffic violators.

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